September 20, 2020

Dear Mayor and Assembly Members,

I want to thank you for the countless hours you have served over these last 6 months and how you have managed this pandemic. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. The steps taken by the council have been a testament to your love for the people.

This vote is a giant move for the lives of all who call Petersburg their home, even more for future generations.

I know your wishes are to serve the people here, but you do not have control over those who follow you in service to the people. In my opinion giving the authority to control people gathering is wrong. "Prohibit gatherings of persons in excess of a specified number." Who is to say what that number is and how it will be used? You might as well throw out the Bill of Rights, Article 1 "...the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The majority of communication is nonverbal and that has already been left to the wayside by virtual meetings. Your people are already faceless, by that I mean you do not have to look into our eyes nor see our body language. You do not have to hear us breathe or sigh. You don't have to see sadness or smiles. Please listen, see, feel and hear your people and vote their wishes.

You are making giant decisions here, please do not close your eyes to the face of the Petersburg Borough People.

The proposed Petersburg Borough Ordinance #2020-19 may help manage today but what will be the ramifications on our future generations?

Please vote "NO". Thank you.

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Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Johnson